Armed Forces, in connection with any grievance or complaint of any such member arising out of the terms or conditions of service of such member in the Armed Forces.

§ 143.6 Activity not covered by this part.

(a) This part does not limit the right of any member of the Armed Forces to:

(1) Join or maintain membership in any lawful organization or association not constituting a “military labor organization” as defined in §146.3 of this part;

(2) Present complaints or grievances concerning the terms or conditions of the service of such member in the Armed Forces in accordance with established military procedures;

(3) Seek or receive information or counseling from any source;

(4) Be represented by counsel in any legal or quasi-legal proceeding, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;

(5) Petition the Congress for redress of grievances; or

(6) Take such other administrative action to seek such administrative or judicial relief, as is authorized by applicable laws and regulations.

(b) This part does not prevent commanders or supervisors from giving consideration to the views of any member of the Armed Forces presented individually or as a result of participation on command-sponsored or authorized advisory councils, committees, or organizations.

(c) This part does not prevent any civilian employed at a military installation from joining or being a member of an organization that engages in representational activities with respect to terms or conditions of civilian employment.

§ 143.7 Responsibilities.

(a) The Heads of DoD Components shall:

(1) Ensure compliance with this part and with the guidelines contained in §143.8 of this part.

(2) Establish procedures to ensure that any action initiated under this part is reported immediately to the Head of the DoD Component concerned.

(3) Report any action initiated under this part immediately to the Secretary of Defense.

(b) The Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Program Integration) shall serve as the administrative point of contact in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for all matters relating to this part.

§ 143.8 Guidelines.

The guidelines for making certain factual determinations are as follows:

(a) In determining whether an organization is a military labor organization, whether a person is a member of a military labor organization, or whether such person or organization is in violation of any provision of this part, the history and operation of the organization (including its constitution and bylaws, if any) or person in question may be evaluated, along with evidence on the conduct constituting a prohibited act.

(b) In determining whether the commission of a prohibited act by a person can be imputed to the organization, examples of factors that may be considered include: The frequency of such act; the position in the organization of persons committing the act; whether the commission of such act was known by the leadership of the organization; whether the commission of the act was condemned or disavowed by the leadership of the organization.

(c) Any information about persons and organizations not affiliated with the Department of Defense needed to make the determinations required by this part shall be gathered in strict compliance with the provisions of DoD Directive 5200.271 and shall not be acquired by counterintelligence or security investigative personnel. The organization itself shall be considered a primary source of information.